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AMENDMENTIN THE CLAIMS:

1. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An article having on at least a portion of a surface a multi-layer coating comprising:
 - a layer comprised of polymer on said surface of said article; and
 - a color and protective layer comprised of refractory metal compound or refractory metal alloy compound on said layer comprised of polymer, and said color and protective layer comprised of refractory metal compound or refractory metal alloy compound is uncoated.
2. (ORIGINAL) The article of claim 1 wherein said refractory metal compound or refractory metal alloy compound is selected from the group consisting of nitrides, carbides, oxides and carbonitrides.
3. (ORIGINAL) The article of claim 2 wherein said refractory metal compound or refractory metal alloy compound is a refractory metal nitride or refractory metal alloy nitride.
4. (ORIGINAL) The article of claim 1 wherein a layer comprised of refractory metal or refractory metal alloy is on said layer comprised of polymer.
- 5-7. (CANCELLED)
8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An article having on at least a portion of a surface a multi-layer coating comprising:
 - a layer comprised of polymer on said surface of said article;
 - a color and protective layer comprised of refractory metal compound or refractory metal alloy compound on said layer comprised of polymer; and
 - a layer comprised of the reaction products of (i) refractory metal or refractory metal alloy, (ii) oxygen and (iii) nitrogen on said layer comprised of refractory metal compound or refractory metal alloy compound.

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9. (ORIGINAL) The article of claim 1 wherein said layer comprised of polymer is comprised of epoxy urethane.
10. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of claim 1 wherein said refractory metal compound or refractory metal alloy compound is selected from the group consisting of nitrides and carbonitrides.
11. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of claim 10 wherein a layer comprised of refractory metal or refractory metal alloy is on said layer comprised of polymer.
- 12-15. (CANCELLED)
16. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of claim 1 wherein said color and protective layer comprised of refractory metal compound or refractory metal alloy compound provides one of a gold color, a brass color, or a nickel color.
17. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of claim 1 wherein said color and protective layer comprised of refractory metal compound or refractory metal alloy compound provides a nickel color.
18. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of claim 1 wherein the surface is a faucet.
19. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of claim 1 wherein the surface is a door knob.
20. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of claim 1 wherein said layer comprised of polymer is directly on said surface of said article.
21. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of claim 1 wherein said color and protective layer comprised of refractory metal compound or refractory metal alloy compound is directly on said layer comprised of polymer.

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22. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of claim 8 wherein said refractory metal compound or refractory metal alloy compound is selected from the group consisting of nitrides, carbides, oxides and carbonitrides.
23. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of claim 22 wherein said refractory metal compound or refractory metal alloy compound is a refractory metal nitride or refractory metal alloy nitride.
24. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of claim 8 wherein a layer comprised of refractory metal or refractory metal alloy is on said layer comprised of polymer.
25. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of claim 8 wherein said layer comprised of polymer is comprised of epoxy urethane.
26. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of claim 8 wherein said refractory metal compound or refractory metal alloy compound is selected from the group consisting of nitrides and carbonitrides.
27. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of claim 26 wherein a layer comprised of refractory metal or refractory metal alloy is on said layer comprised of polymer.
28. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of claim 8 wherein said color and protective layer comprised of refractory metal compound or refractory metal alloy compound provides one of a gold color, a brass color, or nickel color.
29. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of claim 8 wherein said color and protective layer comprised of refractory metal compound or refractory metal alloy compound provides a nickel color.
30. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of claim 8 wherein the surface is a faucet.

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31. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of claim 8 wherein the surface is a door knob.
32. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of claim 8 wherein said layer comprised of polymer is directly on said surface of said article.
33. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of claim 8 wherein said color and protective layer comprised of refractory metal compound or refractory metal alloy compound is directly on said layer comprised of polymer.
34. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of claim 8 wherein said layer comprised of the reaction products of (i) refractory metal or refractory metal alloy, (ii) oxygen and (iii) nitrogen is directly on said color and protective layer comprised of refractory metal compound or refractory metal alloy compound.